



Master gunners

Course helps Soldiers hone their small-arms skills.

Page 5



Patkya bound

Training PRTs help Afghanistan begin self-governance.

Pages 6-7, 11

Commander's message	2
Combat medic	3
219th demob	4
Patriot Academy party	8
M1 Abrams tank	9
MWR.....	10



JANUARY 2012

FREE

A VIRTUAL REALITY

Atterbury's new IED simulator uses high-def to imitate attack

BY STAFF SGT. MATT SCOTTEN
CRIER STAFF WRITER

Provincial Reconstruction Team Kapisa, which is training at Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center for an upcoming deployment to Afghanistan, was the first PRT to train on a new virtual reality combat simulator Dec. 16. The simulator was designed specifically to help Soldiers better deal with the No. 1 killer in the contemporary operating environment: improvised explosive devices.

The Counter-IED Collective and Individual Mounted Training Program put Soldiers in a simulated armored vehicle and uses high definition video projected onto a giant screen surrounding the vehicle. Sound and percussion elements are used to add to the realism of the simulation.

The system is designed to replicate realistic conditions of mounted combat, such as smoke, noise, poor visibility, confusion and physically jarring explosions, all within the confines of safety.

The system puts Soldiers through realistic scenarios and physiological challenges to fully engage all the senses that affect



CRIER PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DAVID BRUCE

Provincial Reconstruction Team Kapisa, training at Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center for a deployment to Afghanistan, was the first PRT to train on a new virtual reality combat simulator Dec. 16 designed specifically to help Soldiers better deal with the number one killer in the contemporary operating environment: improvised explosive devices.

their performance and decision-making skills on the battlefield.

"It was designed because there was nothing out there to safely simulate an IED blast for Soldiers," said Michael Laughead, Louisville, Ky. native and observer/controller with R.L. Leaders, the company responsible for building the simulator.

The simulator trains Soldiers on much more than just reacting to an IED threat. Soldiers also get to practice troop-leading procedures, night training, mobility kills, reporting unexploded ordnance and medical evacuation reporting among other things.

"There is a lot being trained here, and the training device itself

is really awe-inspiring to Soldiers, because they've never seen anything like it," Laughead said. "It gets them excited to train, and that makes it so much easier to get them the information they need so they can be successful in combat."

Not only does the new simulator provide a realistic

training environment, but it also gives a digital recording of the entire training scenario to units that they can immediately review on any computer so Soldiers can look at what they did right, what they did wrong and how they can improve.

Lt. Col. Eric K. Shafa, Woodbridge, Va. native and commander of PRT Kapisa, is excited about being with the first PRT to have the opportunity to train with the new simulator.

"This simulator is more realistic than anything I've seen before, and the ability for these guys to get in there and work together and actually run through scenarios where they are leaving the (forward operating base) and being able to communicate with each other as well as work on their situational awareness, that's really the most important thing," Shafa said.

"A lot of these guys have never been to Afghanistan, and for them to see what the roads are like, what the scenarios are that they may encounter, it helps prepare them for what they will see when they get down range so they already have in mind what it's going to be like," he added.

(SEE IED, PAGE 10)

The Crier



A monthly publication serving Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center, Muscatatuck Urban Training Center and nearby areas published by the Daily Journal, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of Defense, under exclusive written contract with Camp Atterbury.

This newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The Crier are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Daily Journal.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or the Daily Journal of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Camp Atterbury Public Affairs Office.

**ATTERBURY-MUSCATATUCK
CENTER FOR COMPLEX OPERATIONS**
Maj. Gen. Clif Tooley, Commander

**CAMP ATTERBURY
JOINT MANEUVER TRAINING CENTER**
Col. Todd Townsend, Garrison Commander
Col. Timothy E. Newsome, 205th Infantry Brigade Commander
Col. David Bushey, 157th Infantry Brigade Commander
Col. Pat Donahoe, 4th Cavalry Brigade Commander
Lt. Col. Craig Haggard, Air Guard Range Commander
Lt. Col. Malcolm B. Miracle, Dental Director
Lt. Col. James L. Simon, Medical Site Director/Commander

MUSCATATUCK URBAN TRAINING COMPLEX
Lt. Col. R. Dale Lyles, Site Manager
Lt. Col. Larry Terranova, Wolf Operations,
Observer Controller Battalion

CONTACT INFORMATION
Maj. Lisa Kopczynski, Public Affairs Officer
(812) 526-1433

Send comments to: Camp Atterbury Public Affairs Office
P.O. Box 5000, Edinburgh IN 46124
E-mail: int-CAJMTCPAO@ng.army.mil

CIVILIAN PUBLISHER
DAILY JOURNAL
P.O. Box 699, Franklin, IN 46131
(317) 736-7101

Chuck Wells, publisher
Amy May, editor
(317) 736-2726 E-mail: amay@dailyjournal.net

Advertising
(317) 736-2703

Volume 10, Number 1

© 2012, DAILY JOURNAL

Atterbury-Muscatatuck a distinctive experience

Atterbury-Muscatatuck is generally recognized as the place of choice to train and test because of the valuable team of employees, volunteers and community members who understand that our business is about people and how we treat them. For that, I thank you.

The people coming through Atterbury-Muscatatuck, however briefly, are pledged to go into harm's way for missions that are important to our nation, our state and our world. I count on you to do what's right, each and every day, to set them up for success.

Atterbury-Muscatatuck is a platform in the sense that we provide a contemporary operating environment for the whole of the government team, to prepare in an atmosphere that closely replicates what they will find overseas or defending the homeland. Atterbury-Muscatatuck is chosen for its capabilities, but our customers return because of the totality of their experience.

When we build on the foundation of treating one another with civility, and then add extraordinary professionalism, we have created a distinctive and satisfying experience. From ensuring positive first impressions to providing customer service with courtesy that is memorable, we are paving the way for our future. We exist but for one reason, and that is to provide the best support for those who are temporarily in our care.

I can say confidently that we are building on our past traditions and implementing our lessons learned



Maj. Gen. Clif Tooley

Commander's Message

to prepare for continued and evolving missions. We are privileged to play an integral part in preparing our military for the missions overseas, and since beginning the current mobilization assignment in 2003, a combined total of 140,000 service members have passed through the gates of Camp Atterbury for mobilization or demobilization. Muscatatuck Urban Training Center opened in 2005 and utilization has increased exponentially, with nearly 15,000 people training and testing at the facility in the last fiscal year. Let us not forget our first mission, which is to support annual and individual training for the regional National Guard units.

Atterbury-Muscatatuck continues to add niche business to the overall plan. We've realized a fully operational civilian deployment capability and, we expect efforts to support the joint, interagency, intergovernmental, multinational team will increase over the next year.

Being customer focused is our centerpiece, and knowing that I can count on employees who carry the torch every day, I am confident that the future in your hands is a bright one.

Maj. Gen. Clif Tooley is the commander of Atterbury-Muscatatuck Center for Complex Operations.

COLTS SPIRIT



Cheerleaders and junior cheerleaders from the Indianapolis Colts visited Soldiers at Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center Dec. 10. During their visit they handed out autographs to Soldiers and performed a dance routine to the sound of "Santa Baby."

**CRIER PHOTO
BY STAFF SGT. MATT SCOTTEN**

**CANARY CREEK
CINEMAS 8**
1/8 Mile West of Applebee's on Mallory Parkway, Franklin
ALL SHOWS BEFORE 6 PM ONLY \$6.50
CHILDREN 2-11 \$6.50 • SENIORS 65 & WISER ALWAYS \$7.50
AFTER 6:00 PM ADULTS \$8.50
NOW ACCEPTING MASTERCARD & VISA

MILITARY DISCOUNT ALL EVENING
ALL SHOWS AFTER 6PM JUST \$7.50
WITH MILITARY I.D.

**For Showtimes
Call 738-1041**
www.canarycreekcinemas.com
All Stadium Seating • Dolby Stereo Digital
MOVIE INFO LINE 738-1041

FOR RENT

7777 Sweetwater Trail

NINEVEH

11 miles from Camp Atterbury

3 BR, 1 Bath, laundry room, all new updated kitchen, basement, remodeled bath, new flooring, detached 2 car garage, ready to move in.

NO PETS • \$750 a month + deposit
Call 317.878.4343 / 317.431.9889

Combat medic takes skills on the road to help injured motorists

BY STAFF SGT. DAVID BRUCE
CRIER STAFF WRITER

While serving in the military, one can assume that the performance of one's duties and occupational specialty will be in the context while "in uniform," whether on a military installation or deployed.

Sgt. Gerald Dick, of Louisville, Ky., assigned to Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center, with the Medical Detachment, has found that to be not necessarily the case.

Dick's occupational specialty is combat medic and he has additional training as a practical nurse; however, he hadn't always been a medic. His first enlistment was as a tanker. When he left the Army, Dick became a volunteer firefighter. It was during a response to a fire that led him to being a medic.

"I went to the scene of a fire and I couldn't help," Dick said. "There was nothing I could do to help, other than fight the fire. So I came back in the Reserves and got sent to the (Healthcare Specialist) school. I did quite well and my instructors submitted the paperwork for me to go to the (practical nurse) program. I picked up my licensed practical nurse (certification) for the State of Kentucky," he said.

Medical training is part of the



CRIER PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DAVID BRUCE

Sgt. Gerald Dick, of Louisville, Ky., administers an intravenous line to Spc. Dan Sanchez of Valparaiso, at the Troop Medical Clinic at Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center Dec. 14. Dick has stopped twice this year to render first aid at auto accidents he has witnessed.

skills that Soldiers learn. While not everybody has the specialized training that Dick possesses, it is something that more people should become proficient in.

"Everybody should have some medical training," Dick said. "You never know when these skills are going to be needed."

Case in point: Dick has twice stopped for motor vehicle accidents that he has witnessed during this past year and rendered aid to those injured.

"The first time I was up in Ohio

for my brother's funeral. I was on my way to the funeral home and a van turned in front of a large flatbed truck. I stopped and did assessments on the drivers. In addition to the injuries sustained by one of the drivers, it turned out that his pacemaker was damaged during the accident," Dick said.

Dick immobilized the van driver and the van driver was evacuated by air ambulance.

Dick seems to have a knack for being at the right place at the right time.

While traveling to Louisville from Camp Atterbury he witnessed another crash.

"It was a Friday. I was leaving for Louisville and Fort Knox. I witnessed a small two-door vehicle careen off a concrete divider, hit a van and another concrete divider on a bridge," Dick said. "I ended up stopping and grabbed my (advanced life support) bag from my vehicle and ran back. I put a (cervical collar) on the girl and started an assessment, a quick set of vitals. From then, until someone called 911 and (Emergency Medical Services) showed up, spoke with her and tried to keep her conscious. She did lose consciousness a couple times, so it was a lot of rubbing her hand and talking to her."

According to Dick, one of the primary concerns with motor vehicle accidents is spinal injury.

"(Cervical spine) is a big thing, especially for motor vehicle

accidents because if it's bad enough you could have paralysis," Dick said. "Most people, their first instinct is to get out of the vehicle. In the case of the young lady, there was so much damage (to the car), that it literally pushed the front end so far that there was two or three inches from the steering wheel to the seat because of the impact. So you can't let them move and, luckily enough, I had c-collars that the military had provided for training, so I went ahead and used those," he said.

Though expecting to save lives is part of the duties of a combat medic, Dick said he figured it would be in other circumstances.

"I always thought it would be in uniform on a deployment with the classic shouts for 'Doc!' or 'Medic!' I never imagined riding down a country road or the expressway, especially to see the accidents happen."

Dick doesn't consider himself a hero.

"A lot of people just drove by, in both cases, and just watched and stared," he said. "I was in the right place at the right time. I just did what a Soldier should do: I stopped and helped."

CASPA

Camp Atterbury Special Personalized Attention

The place on Atterbury for good health and well being.

Now offering, by appointment only:

- Swedish and Deep Tissue Massage
- Chair Massages
- Foot Massages
- Ear Candling
- Ion Detox Foot Baths
- Sports Massage
- Hot Stone Massage

European Body Wrap

LOSE INCHES FOR
PT TEST OR THAT
SPECIAL OCCASION
AND CLEANSE
YOUR BODY OF
DAMAGING TOXINS!

SUPER GIFT FOR YOUR SIGNIFICANT OTHER!

Call for appointment today! 317.374.7187
Open 7 Days a Week

Located in Camp Atterbury Fitness Center - Building 329

Additional location in Barbershop Annex behind Building 613



M. Wayne Zamora O.D.
210 W. Main Cross
Edinburgh, IN 46124
(812) 526-7444

Appointments also available at our other locations:

401 Henry St., North Vernon, IN 47265
(812) 346-2020

-OR-

Building 343 **Camp Atterbury Optical**
Edinburgh, IN 46124 (812) 526-1499 (ext. 2222)



TRICARE PROVIDER

219th BfSB, one of last to leave Iraq, begins demob

BY STAFF SGT. MATT SCOTTEN
CRIER STAFF WRITER

Soldiers of the 219th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade started coming home Nov. 10, flying in to Indianapolis International Airport and were taken to Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center for their redeployment processing. The Soldiers are among the last American Forces to leave Iraq.

During deployment, the 219th BfSB was responsible for gathering intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance operations throughout Iraq. Col. Ivan Denton, Fortville native and commanding officer of the 219th BfSB was among the first Indiana Guardsmen to deploy to Iraq in 2003, and now he is among the last to leave.

"The first mobilization was more fun in that we didn't know how it was gonna work. The invasion occurred and all of the sudden, we got pushed into Iraq on no notice," Denton said. "We didn't have air conditioning. We didn't have a mess hall. We didn't have a gym."

"This time when we went over, we had all that stuff. We had air conditioning. We had mess halls. We had a gym. We had our own beds. The difference was just amazing. We had a great mission and we worked hard. We probably worked harder outside the wire on this one than before."

The next step for Soldiers of the 219th was the redeployment process at Atterbury.

All Soldiers returning from deployments must go through the redeployment process, in which



INDIANA NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY SGT. WILLIAM E. HENRY, JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Indiana National Guard Soldiers with the 219th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade are greeted as they exit a plane at Indianapolis International Airport Nov. 10. The service members are returning to Indiana from a deployment to Iraq, where they focused on intelligence operations.

they are screened for physical injuries and mental stress indicators and briefed on benefits and opportunities to help them reintegrate into society.

Representatives from various organizations brief Soldiers on subjects such as employment and education opportunities, medical benefits and how to claim Veterans Affairs disability for injuries sustained while in theater.

Denton said he believes the redeployment process is important to help Soldiers transition smoothly from deployment to society.

"A lot of our Soldiers are out of work in their civilian lives," Denton said. "In some of the briefs, they talked about military-friendly employers that they have built relationships with here, and

so I'm excited to see those opportunities being passed on to our Soldiers."

Denton added that coming home without a job is especially stressful for Soldiers around the holiday season and that he hopes his Soldiers take full advantage of

the opportunities available.

Soldiers like Capt. Paul Karbley, Greenwood native and future operations officer for the BfSB, are excited to be home.

"We didn't think we would be home before the holidays," Karbley said. "We thought we

would be there until February, and so it's really a treat being able to come home in time to spend the holiday season with our families."

With more than 400 Soldiers in the brigade, troops were being sent home in waves.

"Some of our guys got to leave Iraq in October, some got to go home in November, and our last group, which is in southern Iraq, will be home soon. It feels really great to be home for Christmas," Denton said.

When Soldiers come home from deployments abroad, it is typical to hear Soldiers say how much they can't wait to hold their children, see their spouses or get reacquainted with their favorite deep-fried American culinary delights. Staff Sgt. Jacob Boulton, Franklin native and chaplain assistant for the BfSB, said that while although he looks forward to all of that with excitement, there is one thing he really can't wait for.

"I want to take a bath," Boulton said. "It sounds so simple, but I am gonna lay there and soak for hours."

Frechette Eye Center



We Appreciate Our Military Families

Your TRICARE/HUMANA PROVIDER

Free Frame of Choice Program
\$100 Off complete pair of Eyewear or Prescription Sunwear per person

Serving The Area
since 1980

"You should see what you're missing!"

89 E. Jefferson (Hwy 44) Downtown, Franklin • 317.736.7715

Stop by our new location in Morgantown

MORGANTOWN EYE CENTER

Full Service Comprehensive Eye Health Care • Eye Exams, Contact Lenses
80 W. Washington St. (Next to Town Hall, Morgantown)

Accepting New Patients

812-597-2020

Insurance providers, Medicare, Medicaid, EyeMed, VSP, etc.

www.frechetteeye.com

Godfather's Pizza

2 Large/2 Topping Pizzas \$19.99

ALL DAY DELIVERY!
ALL DAY SUNDAY BUFFET
and FOOT LONG SUBS!

Delivery 11:00 A.M. - CLOSE

812-526-9002

10% Military Discount

Indiana RTI holds master gunner course at Atterbury

By STAFF SGT. MATT SCOTTEN
CRIER STAFF WRITER

America has been engaged in full-scale combat operations for more than 10 years now. As a result, many units take for granted that their Soldiers know the fundamental weapons systems with which they are expected to qualify because those weapons systems are already in such frequent use. With this kind of complacency comes the risk that Soldiers aren't given the opportunity to maintain the high state of readiness they might otherwise have. The Regional Training Institute at Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center has taken steps to help prevent this by holding a Small Arms Master Gunner Course.

"We teach these Soldiers the best techniques to use when firing almost all of the small arms commonly used by our troops on the ground," said Staff Sgt. Robert H. Berentes, Seymour native and instructor at the Regional Training Institute.

"Then, we instruct them on how to teach those same skills to the Soldiers in their home units when it is time for them

to qualify. We want to set their units up for success,"

SAMG students are taught the ins and outs of advanced level maintenance, marksmanship and safety on several weapons systems, including the M4, M249, M240, M2 and more.

"We especially like to try to pinpoint weapons system with each student that they, personally, are weakest on," Berentes said. "We then give them primary marksmanship instruction on those weapons, show them everything we can about those weapons, and give them the opportunity to pass that knowledge on."

"When I came here, I really didn't know half of the stuff that was covered," said Spc. Marc O. Parrett, Huntington native and heavy equipment construction operator with the 76th Special Troops Battalion.

"I'm really learning a lot."

Students such as Sgt. Robert E. Cote, Evansville native and senior mechanic with "A" Battery, 1st Battalion, 163rd Field Artillery, look forward to bringing their new skills back to their unit.

"I can now train my units on proper firing techniques, qualifications and range operations on just about all of our small arms weapons systems," Cote said. "I've only been in the course a week so far and I am already shooting a lot better using the skills they have taught me."

As with almost any training cycle that gets to live fire a variety of weapons one might normally see in movies and video games, fun goes hand in hand with the educational process.

"I can't wait to take the M4 to the range to fire it at a 600-meter target," Cote said. "That's the carbine's maximum effective range on a point target. Your standard qualification range only extends up to 300 meters. Getting to push it to the limit like that is going to be awesome."

Other students were interested in more powerful weapons systems.

"The M2 .50 cal is my favorite," Parrett said. "It's an old system and it might not have the finesse some of the other systems have, but it still does the most damage. Browning built the machine gun right the first time."



CRIER PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. MATT SCOTTEN

Staff Sgt. Christopher Ginn, an instructor at the Small Arms Master Gunner Course, held at Camp Atterbury, assists students by teaching them proper firing techniques for light machine guns such as the M249.

Sleep Like A Baby



Now Open...

Edinburgh
MATTRESS CENTER

3254 West Market Place Drive

(next to Harley Davidson and the Edinburgh Premium Outlet Mall)

Edinburgh, IN 46124 • 812-526-2210



FREE DELIVERY
on sets over \$499 and haul away
UP TO 48 MONTHS INTEREST FREE!

QUEEN SETS
\$369
Starting at

Buy an **icomfort**
Sleep System by Serta®

Mattress Set and receive a
\$200 GIFT CARD for the
Edinburgh Premium Outlet Mall



MATTRESS SETS

\$699
Starting at

COUPON



Infrared Heater

Gen 3 1000

\$297

Expires 12-31-11





ON THE RO



Left: Sgt. Omar Banda, 1st Battalion, 143rd Army Infantry, is shown in fire fighting positions with the M240B, M4 carbine and other weapons.

Above: Banda leads a five-man stack during close quarters training.

The PRT Paktya mission is to conduct counterinsurgency and reconstruction activities in the province.

Military experience + college degree = Ready for Success

Combine your military experience with an associate, bachelor's or master's degree from Indiana Tech to prepare yourself success wherever life takes you. Indiana Tech offers:

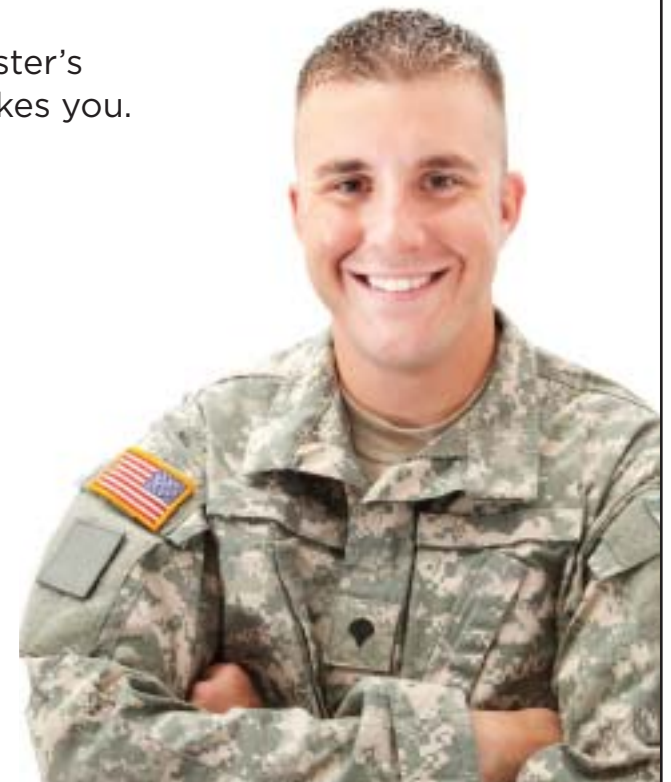
- High-demand majors such as accounting, business administration, and organizational leadership
- Scholarships for servicemembers and their spouses
- Yellow Ribbon program benefits
- Courses that meet once a week for five-week or six-week sessions
- **Classes on post**, in Greenwood, or online

Classes start soon!
Contact Andy Stash:

- 317.807.0077 ext. 4525
- RASlash@IndianaTech.edu
- www.IndianaTech.edu/CPS

INDIANATECH

College of Professional Studies



DAD TO PAKTYA, AFGHANISTAN



Infantry Regiment (Airborne) squad leader, instructs soldiers on strong and M203 grenade launcher at Camp Atterbury Dec. 5.

Quarter battle training at Camp Atterbury Dec. 6.

Emergency operations to improve governance, development and recon-

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. VERNON YOUNG JR.



Left: Spc. Adam Torres, 1st Battalion, 143rd Infantry Regiment, cleans weapons before initial weapons issue.

Above: Airmen, Soldiers and Sailors team up to perform combat lifesaver techniques during the final scenario designed to simulate a "real world" situation at Camp Atterbury Nov. 5.

Providers of
Deployment
Medicine
Since 2003

Cordial
Friendly
Atmosphere

Case
Management



Off-Post Medical Services

Services:

Our experienced staff can pre-screen your records so you can meet Deployment Medical Requirements

We also perform:

Physicals • All Required Immunizations Stocked
Blood Typing • EKG • BMI
Framingham Score • Paps • PSA
Coordination of Dental Services and Mammograms
Complimentary Shuttle Service

Two Locations:

North Columbus
7901 Veterans Parkway
Columbus, GA 31909
M-F 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Weekends 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Edinburgh, IN
205 E. Main Cross
Edinburgh, IN 46124
M-F 9:00 AM-6:00 PM
Saturday hours by appointment

706-225-9311 or 812-526-2511

Free
Waiver
Submission

15 Minute
In House
Lab Results

Excellent
Rapport with
Arcent Surgeon's
Office

Patriot Academy spreads Christmas cheer to area families

BY CAPT. KYLE KEY
CRIER STAFF WRITER

The local economy may not show many signs of improvement, but Christmas spirit is on the rise, thanks to a few Soldiers who brought a little cheer to families in need.

The National Guard Patriot Academy hosted its Third Annual Operation Christmas Blessing, providing a hot meal, household goods and toys for children whose families have fallen on hard times.

"It's been a horrible year," said Stacia Raines of North Vernon. "My children's father ran out on us and he hasn't paid child support. Shortly after, I lost my job. I didn't know how I was going to provide for Christmas this year. I don't know how I was chosen for this event or how they knew, but it's definitely a blessing."

She just received news of a job offer and will start working in Jennings County after the New Year.

"Things are looking up," she said. "And what the Patriot Academy did was pretty awesome. It was a nice thing that you did for us."

More than 200 Soldiers, staff and cadre, along with the Jennings County United Way and North Vernon Rotary Club, packed the halls and hosted a Christmas feast complete with turkey, trimmings and cranberry sauce.

The Patriot Academy band and choir led the evening with Christmas carols and holiday music. But the most cheerful sound came from children as they greeted Santa Claus.

Soldiers, who sponsored the children, served as Santa's helpers, but none was as eager to help as student Pvt. Evan A. Dancer of Eagle River, Alaska.

"I have a reindeer with the same name as you," Santa told Dancer. "You look familiar. Where are you from?"

Dancer replied, "I'm from Alaska."

"It's warm up there this time of year," Santa remarked with a jolly laugh.

Dancer's upbringing, however, was less than jolly. At 3 months old, he spent a few weeks recovering from malnutrition and dehydration after his mother had died of an overdose and Dancer was rescued from his crib. His father tried to raise him, often "couch surfing" at friends' houses until he got in trouble with the law.

Dancer went into foster care at age 11. He quit high school at age 16, but when he turned 19, his guardian, Russell Pressley, knew he needed something more and urged him to look into the National Guard.

"I'm overwhelmed at where I am with my life now," Dancer said. "I actually feel like I have a lot of support and a new family through the National Guard. I looked at the kids tonight and just saw a lot of myself in them. For me being there, I was able to give some influence to the kids. I told them, 'It won't always be like this ... things will turn around.'"

Dancer is scheduled to graduate in the spring with his high school diploma and one semester of college credits. He is a member of the Alaska Army National Guard in Wasilla and will attend his advanced individual training next year to become a diesel mechanic.

The Patriot Academy Soldiers went on a Christmas buying spree and purchased gifts for their sponsored children. They spent at least \$20 on each child, but some felt compelled to do much more. One Soldier, who wished to remain anonymous, spent \$300 of his paycheck to provide for one of the families.

Many of the students at the Patriot Academy said they felt a bond with the sponsored families. At 9 years of age, student Pvt. Kyle R. Moore from Brockton, Mass., was

homeless and found shelter with his mother and sister in an old pop-up tent camper. Although they didn't have much, they had each other.

"It made me feel so good to see some of the expressions on the children's faces as they opened up their presents," Moore said. "But what struck me most was how these parents were able to smile, because without us, they would not necessarily be able to afford them."

Throughout the night, a positive energy filled the room. The children were thankful for what they had.

"Christmas is about being with family and friends," Sydney Tolbert said. "But it's not all about the presents," added her friend, Alexis Porton. "It's about the birth of Jesus!" they said together.

According to Patriot Academy Commandant Lt. Col. William Kenny Freeman, the season for giving and being involved in the community is year round.

"Our Soldiers have contributed thousands of community service hours to the people of Jennings County," Freeman said. "But what they've given us in return is immeasurable. Tonight was just one way we could show our appreciation to the community."



CRIER PHOTOS BY CAPT. KYLE KEY

Top: Area children wait to see Santa at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center during the Patriot Academy's Operation Christmas Blessing. Above: Musicians played Christmas carols during the event.



Comprehensive Contingency Task Force



CCTF



Your Full Service **"RAPID READY"** Deployment Clinic

Phone: (812) 526-4070

502 W. Center Cross Street • Edinburgh, IN 46124

Specializing in all Medical/Dental Requirements in Preparing for Deployment/Redeployment Missions

Sample of Available Services:

Physical Exams
Dental
Blood Work/Labs
Blood Typing/Testing
Mammograms
Immunizations
Deployment Medications
ECG
Chest X-Ray
Audiogram
Urinalysis/Drug Testing
BMI

Many other services/
procedures are available.

**Transportation/
Shuttle Provided**
... call for details!

McDonald's® is proud to serve our Military Men & Women!

25% DISCOUNT
FOR OUR MILITARY MEN AND WOMEN
(Inside Dining Only — Please)
Not Valid With Coupons or Other Discounts

706 W. Trafalgar Point Way • Trafalgar, IN 46181
2080 E. King Street • Open 24 Hours
Franklin, IN 46131 (SR 44 & I-65 Exit 90)

i'm lovin' it

Desert Storm-era tank honored in fitting moment at museum

BY STAFF SGT. DAVID BRUCE
CRIER STAFF WRITER

They sit mute on concrete slabs. Once, they had voices of their own: the thunderous roar of cannons, the shriek of missiles or the rumble of diesel engines.

Soldiers once staked their lives and a nation, its freedom and defense of allies on them. Some proved themselves in conflict, others in the chess game of the Cold War. Like Soldiers, they retire when their services are longer needed or rendered obsolete.

Douglas MacArthur said that old Soldiers never die, they just fade away.

The Soldiers that used these pieces of equipment may have faded, but the tanks, armored personnel carriers and other relics remain on display as tribute to Soldiers of past generations and eras.

Camp Atterbury has taken possession of an M1 Abrams main battle tank that is to be decommissioned and placed in the static display that is part of the Camp Atterbury Veterans Memorial.

Getting the tank here was a long process, said Maj. Everett Baker, the artifacts officer for the Camp Atterbury Museum.

"It was an ongoing process for about five to seven years which I inherited from my predecessor," Baker said.

The tank was stored at Anniston Army Depot in northern Alabama before coming to Camp Atterbury. According to markings on the tank, it last saw service with A Company, 1st Battalion, 172nd Armor Regiment.

According to Baker, the motivation for having this piece of armor at the Camp Atterbury Veterans Memorial was to honor those troops who served during the time the M1 was actively used.

"Indiana had troops involved with Desert Storm, and the M1 is a vehicle from that era," Baker said. "The M1 tank had a major effect on that time period."

The M1 entered service in 1980 to replace the aging M60 series main battle tank, which military

planners felt was inferior to the new family of tanks fielded by the Soviet Union, said Capt. Jay Hildebrand, an armor officer with the Indiana Army National Guard.

"It had an improved computer system and optics for fire control, it could shoot and move. It was faster and had a better suspension than the previous M60 family of tanks," Hildebrand said.

"In the case of the M1, it had a 105mm main cannon and crewed by a driver, loader, gunner and tank commander. The history of the first Gulf War was a case in point that the M1 was a superior piece of armor."

The M1 series tank's performance demonstrated the United States' military technological capability, said Baker, who is a veteran of Desert Storm and witnessed the aftermath of the tank battles in that conflict.

"It was amazing to see our capabilities in a war-time situation," Baker said. "It backed up the term super-power. (The M1 series) made victory decisive in a short amount of time. Seeing the aftereffects of battles between the M1 and T72 (Soviet tank) used by the Iraqis, it was like target practice."

"It was frightening."

Prior to being put on display, the tank will be demilitarized, rendering this once powerful instrument of war inert, at the Camp Atterbury Unit Training Equipment Site maintenance facility.

"We have to remove the control panels, radio mounts and primary gunner sights and ensure that the tank cannot be put back into service," said Staff Sgt. Matt Reuter, mechanic at the Camp Atterbury UTES facility. "You have to be certified by the Army's

Tank and Automotive Armaments Command to be able to demilitarize something like this. There is a standard operating procedure for the process, which could take as little as two weeks to finish."

Additional systems that get removed are the engine, fire suppression system and firing mechanism for the main gun, Reuter said.

Once the tank is put in place at the memorial site, the turret will be locked into position and the hatches welded closed. The final preparations for the display also include a new paint job in desert camouflage pattern.

The question has been raised whether tanks still have a prominent role in warfare; whether heavy armor is obsolete, considering only two fully loaded M1 series tanks can be carried on a C-5 Galaxy, the largest cargo aircraft in the U.S. Air Force. While it is unknown what future generations of tanks will look like, its combat effectiveness is still relevant, Hildebrand said.

"The first forces in Baghdad were armor and mechanized infantry. They were also used by the Marines during Falluja and NATO countries have sent a few to Afghanistan," Hildebrand said.

While there are limited applications for main battle tanks in a counter insurgency, they are an important asset when dealing with other national militaries, Baker said. Like any tool, it has to be the right tool for the job.


"Armor still has a role to play in full spectrum operations," Baker said. "Certain tactical situations can prohibit its use, but it hasn't lost its combat multiplier."

And so, tank, Combat M1, serial number 1599, your burdens are over.



CRIER PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DAVID BRUCE

1st Sgt. Mike Dunn, of Nashville, mechanic at Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center's Unit Training Equipment Site, removes an instrument panel from the driver's compartment on an M1 Abrams tank being decommissioned for inclusion at the Camp Atterbury Veterans Memorial, Nov. 1. The decommissioning process removes all subsystems from the tank, including firing mechanisms, radios and communications equipment, sights, fire suppression systems, as well as the engine itself.



NINEVEH POST OFFICE

7544 S. Nineveh Rd.
Nineveh, IN 46164
317.933.2200

Directions from Camp: Left out of the Main Gate on Hospital Rd., right at the 4-way stop

Our staff will gladly assist troops mailing duffie bags, oversized military lockers, etc.

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8-11:30am, 12:30-4:30pm; Sat. 8-11am

For your convenience, skip the hustle and bustle...
call ahead and try our new TAKE and BAKE!



JACK'S PIZZERIA AND GRILL

APPETIZERS	PIZZA
SALADS	TEX-MEX
SANDWICHES	DINNERS

DELIVERY AVAILABLE
Small fee may apply.

(812) 526-5199

HOURS: Sun.-Thurs. 4:30-10:30pm
Fri. & Sat. 4:30pm-12:30am

106 East Main Cross • In Historic Downtown Edinburgh

Wiring Flowers Worldwide

Send your loved ones flowers no matter where they are!

Edinburgh Flower-Gift & Bridal Shop
119 West Thompson St., Edinburgh, IN 46124
812-526-5717



SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR OVER 50 YEARS!



CRIER PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DAVID BRUCE

Sgt. Chris Rohling, Houston, Texas native and squad leader with Provincial Reconstruction Team Kapisa, training at Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center for deployment to Afghanistan, gives a mission brief to his squad before it goes through the new Counter-IED Collective and Individual Mounted Training Program Dec. 16.

◆ IED

(FROM PAGE 1)

Sp. Darren J. Ganier-Slotterbeck, a Santa Coarita, Calif. native and civil affairs specialist for PRT Kapisa, is no stranger to Afghanistan or improvised explosive devices. He was quick to vouch for how realistic the new simulator is.

"I deployed in 2005, 2007 and 2008 with the Marines. I've been blown up multiple times," Ganier-Slotterbeck said, "and it definitely brought back memories. I was a little shaky when I got out of that thing. I'm not going to lie."

According to Ganier-Slotterbeck, Soldiers like him benefit most from the experience offered by the new simulator by seeing such a realistic depiction of what to look for when trying to counter the IED threat. The simulator shows Soldiers what to look for in an environment that could only be more realistic by actually training in Afghanistan. Ganier-Slotterbeck said he wishes the simulator was around before his prior deployments.

"If we'd had the ability to go through training like this at the time, those deployments would have been a lot different," Ganier-Slotterbeck said.

First Army Division East is

responsible for training Soldiers deploying through Camp Atterbury and has been since 2003. Sgt. 1st Class Jason S. Graning, Grand Island, Neb. native and trainer/mentor assigned to 1st Army Division East, 4th Cavalry Battalion, observed and validated PRT Kapisa as the unit went through the new simulator.

"This simulator is extremely cost effective because we can add all sorts of variables to scenarios that we would normally have to resource all sorts of equipment for," Graning said. "As far as the quality of the training, this is the first time I've seen this system, and I think it has to be one of the best simulators the Army has put out. It's just awesome."

All Ranks Club/ The Coffee House

Building 330, between 5th and Eggleston streets.

Hours: Monday-Thursday, Saturday, 6 a.m.-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 6a.m.-11 p.m.

Phone: 526-1143

ATMs

Building 613 - (Laundry)

Building 300 - (All Ranks Club)

Building 230 - (USO)

Atterbury Museum

Building 427, Eggleston Street, near entrance to post.

Hours: Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Phone: 526-1744

Barber

Building 613.

Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sunday, 3-8 p.m.

Phone: 526-1499 ext. 1163

Blackhawk store

Open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to noon, closed Sunday

Chapel

Building 327.

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, 2-6 p.m., Sunday, 8-11 a.m. and 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Sunday services: Collective Protestant, 8 a.m., Baptist, 8:30 a.m., Gospel service, 9:45 a.m., contemporary, 7 p.m. at post chapel.

Call 24 hours prior to arrange transportation for all other faith groups.

Phone: 526-1151

Concessions Stands

Located in the PX area on Fairbanks Street, and there is a hotdog stand across from the chapel in Building 339; hours posted

Distance Learning Classroom

Building 332.

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Phone: 526-1715

Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Housing

Bldg. 433

Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Phone: 526-1411

Laundry

Building 613, Gatling Street

Hours: Open 24/7

Library/Internet Services

Trailer behind Building 339; Parking lot of NCO Club

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Holiday hours 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Phone: 526-1499, ext. 2124

MWR Outdoor Recreation Center

Building 328, Fifth Street

Hours: April 1-Oct. 31, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.,

Nov. 1-March 31, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Phone: 526-1263

Athletic equipment for golf, basketball, baseball, softball, volleyball, football, ladder ball, corn hole and horseshoes can be checked out. Boats, bikes, kayaks, canoes, barbeque grills and tents available. Use of recreation areas should be scheduled through MWR center.

Outdoor Veterans Memorial

West of main entrance at front of post

Hours: Open to public and Soldiers during daylight hours.

Phone Center

Gatling Street, next to PX

Hours: Open 24 hours, daily

Physical Fitness Center

Building 329, 7th and Eggleston streets

Hours: Daily, 5 a.m.-11 p.m.

Phone: 526-1499 ext. 2309

Free weights, mechanical weights and cardiovascular equipment available.

CASPA (spa): Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. (812) 374-7187 (Call by appointment only)

Post Exchange

Building 611, Gatling Street.

Hours: Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Phone: 526-1140

Troop Medical Clinic

Sick Call Hours: 7-8 a.m.

Regular hours: 7 a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday, 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

Phone: 526-1120

USO Day Room

Building 230

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-10 p.m.;

Saturday, 9 a.m.-10 p.m., Sunday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Free sodas, snacks and movies.

PARK GARAGE *Locally Owned & Operated*

Complete Auto Repair Service

1098 E. 775 S. • Nineveh, IN

(3 miles west of Camp Atterbury)



317-933-2311

HOURS: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 8 AM-6 PM; Tues. 8 AM-7 PM

WE SERVE

Made To Order



Espresso - Lattes
Cappuccino

HOURS:
MONDAY-SUNDAY
0600-2300

LOCATED AT:
Camp Atterbury - Bldg. 330
Corner of 5th and Eggleston
812.526.1143

www.houseallranksclub.com

ON BASE - CALL FOR DELIVERY
OF ANY FOOD ITEM 812-526-6940!

BREAKFAST LUNCH & DINNER

Camp Atterbury's only
onsite pizza delivery!

Just like our soldiers —
"you call — we deliver"

- Bar Open at 1600 — 8 Beers on Draft
- Meeting or Classroom available daily by reservation
- Plan your Holiday Parties now!
- Call for reservations!
- Now Serving Fresh Homemade Pizza!
- Large Screen TV
- Patio
- Karaoke Available Upon Request
- Catering — Your Place or Ours
- Private Parties
- Gift Shop

\$19.99 for
Hand Cut 18-20 oz. T-Bones

Ribeye also available!

MILITARY RETIREES AND
GUESTS WELCOME

We Serve the Best of the Best — The United States Military

Since 2002 we have been selling & servicing

Branson
TRACTORS

COUNTRY
CLIPPER
Lawn Mowers

TW
TRACTORS



Over 35 Years Experience working with Farm Equipment

David Brown — Owner/Operator

WE ARE NOW A
RedMax REDMAX DEALER!

DAVE'S Farm Service
50 N. Eisenhower Drive
Edinburgh, IN 46124
812-526-5504 866-778-5504
www.davesfarmservice.com

PRT prepares for deployment to Paktya, Afghanistan

BY STAFF SGT. DAVID BRUCE
CRIER STAFF WRITER

Provincial Reconstruction Teams are receiving their mobilization training at Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center. A PRT is a joint service unit drawn from the Air Force, Army (active and reserve components), Navy and National Guard. Each PRT is assigned to a particular province in Afghanistan. The mission is to function as a bridge between the Afghan government and the people.

Paktya is a small province in eastern Afghanistan. It sits on the ill-defined border with Pakistani-ruled North Waziristan and Kurram in the Federally Administered Tribal Area, a semi-autonomous region of the country.

"Historically, this is where it all began," said Air Force Capt. Bryan Bouchard, of Medford, Ore. public affairs officer for PRT Paktya. "Paktya was where Operation: Anaconda took place in 2002, which was the first large-scale battle of American forces against the Taliban, and the first PRT was sent to Gardez (the provincial capital) in 2003."

According to Bouchard, a PRT deployment is less about "kinetic effects," or combat operations.

"A typical deployment for me would be to support the warfighter in fulfilling military objectives. This mission has that, but also takes on aspects of a humanitarian mission despite being in a war zone.

"It is the job of the PRT to work with the local municipalities to improve the lives of the people of Afghanistan."

One of the primary concerns for the PRT is the 2014 timeline for the withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan, said Air Force Lt. Col. R. John Morse, Tucson, Ariz., commander of PRT Paktya.

Morse recently returned from Paktya province, where he met with the provincial governor, tribal elders and the PRT currently on ground there.

"It was essential to go there and meet these people so we can maintain a continuity of effort," he said. "With the withdrawal, we need that continuity to see current projects to completion."

Morse said the tribal elders are key to the reconstruction efforts in the province.

"The elders are the ones who lead the tribes in daily life," he said. "They are families. And these extended families are big. American families have smaller nuclei; they (Afghans) tend to be grouped with cousins, second cousins and third cousins. Then you have a tribe of a couple thousand people. The elder is father-figure for the tribe. He's a very important link; he dictates the direction of where that tribe is going."

Another challenging aspect to Paktya, and much of Afghanistan, is the porous border with Pakistan.

"You can really characterize it as not a border because the tribes in that area use the markets and resources and have members on both sides of the border," Morse said. "It's daily life for folks from Gardez to travel to markets across the border."

The PRT is about supporting the government of Afghanistan in the provinces, getting the tribes and the government to work together.

"We partner with the government in a way that lends legitimacy," Bouchard said. "We want them to rely on their own government and help a government that provides services for its people."

At this stage of the game, we're stepping back and our presence should decrease since they have government, which is something they haven't had for over a decade."

To do this, the PRT works with the district leaders to identify legitimate needs, and in an ideal situation, the Afghan government will sponsor the project, Morse said. The contract will go to a local Afghan company who will in turn hire local people to complete the project.

"Once you get to that point, you're really talking about transition," Morse said. "We want to show the Afghans how to do these projects using their own recourses."

To complete this mission, Morse's team is made up of individuals with specialties in engineering, civil affairs, media and security.



CRIER PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DAVID BRUCE

Soldiers with Provincial Reconstruction Team Paktya search a room during training at Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center. The Soldiers are with Company D 1st Battalion, 143rd Infantry Regiment (Airborne) of the Texas Army National Guard and provide security for the PRT as it helps conduct reconstruction efforts in Paktya province in eastern Afghanistan.

AREA CHURCHES WELCOME THE TROOPS OF CAMP ATTERBURY

PRESBYTERIAN

HOPEWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3 miles west of US 31 on SR 144

317-736-6829

Church School 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:40 a.m.

BAPTIST

THE CROSSING

8728 S. Nineveh Road (entrance to Prince's Lakes)

317-933-3400

thecrossingind.com

Sundays:

Breakfast, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays:

Awana, 6-7:30 p.m. (children up to 6th grade)

Youth Group & Adults, 6:30 p.m.

Pastor Paul Taylor



EDINBURGH SEPARATE BAPTIST CHURCH

905 S. Main Street, Edinburgh

812-526-2225

Sunday School - Jr. Church 10:00 a.m.

Worship - Children's Classes 11:00 a.m.

Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

Youth 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Rev. Guy Hardin

DAYSPRING BAPTIST CHURCH

1267 W 750 S, Trafalgar

317-933-2259

www.crossconsciouschurch.com

Pastor Peter D. Baugh

Service Times: Sunday Early Service 9:00 a.m.;

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service 11:00

a.m.; Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.; Thursday Midweek

Service 7:00 p.m.

Worship & Praise



NONDENOMINATIONAL

WHO SO EVER WILL

623 Eisenhower Drive, 812-526-5435

Sunday School & Children's Church 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Worship & Youth Service 7:00 p.m.

Transportation Available • Nursery Provided

Lewis Burton, Pastor

Randy Wampler, Youth Director

Associate Ministers: Randy Denton, Ricky Burton,

Ray Bryant, Stacey Tucker

CATHOLIC

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

100 Keeley St., Edinburgh

812-526-9460

Saturday Evening Mass 6:30 p.m.

Sunday Morning Mass 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday Evening Mass 6:30 p.m.

Rev. John Beitans

A man in a military camouflage uniform is shown from the chest up, holding a small American flag with both hands. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with wooden steps.

a space only
you can fill

INDIANA
WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY

You've already proven yourself a leader. You just need to step out of the crowd.

Enroll in IWU's adult degree program now. With the Yellow Ribbon Program and the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill, help is available. Military discounts for all military reserve, and active duty components of our Armed Forces, and spouses!

Call or click

800-234-5327

iwudegrees.com



Change your life. Change the world.

Enroll at our residential campus in Marion, IN; at education centers throughout Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio; and online.